

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

CHAIR REPORT

Police Conduct Oversight Commission April 12, 2016

Adrianna Cerrillo, Afsheen Foroozan, Laura Westphal

The Outreach Committee's last meeting was held on March 16, 2016. At that meeting we did not have quorum so our next meeting will include some back-up house keeping. Despite an uneventful meeting, the Commissioners of the Outreach Committee had a very busy month.

****Update Regarding the City Council:***

On March first the MPD gave the PCOC a copy of their preliminary Body Camera Policy. Then a few days later, at the Public Safety Committee meeting, we learned that the MPD assumed we would join them in holding community listening sessions regarding that draft policy. As the Chair of the Outreach Committee I purposely did not raise a motion for the entire Commission to decide if the PCOC would share those sessions. I felt there had not been enough time to thoroughly study the preliminary policy or the aggressive media agenda NCR planned.

I met with Christina Kendrick of NCR and learned the 6 dates the MPD set up to hold community listening session. I informed Ms Kendrick that the PCOC would not partner with NCR and the MPD on these sessions, but that we definitely would attend those meetings. I attended 4 of the 6 meetings, and spoke at every one to state my personal opinion against the MPD's preliminary policy. Commissioners Cerrillo, Singleton and Foroozan also attended meetings and spoke up, and I thank them very much. At the first meeting, three commissioners from the Civil Rights Commission joined me. They spoke up and were very supportive. In fact, the people in the community were extremely supportive of the PCOC recommendations and of the personal opinions I expressed. For the most part the meetings were hastily put together, much too short, and held in tight quarters. The community expressed frustration and felt disrespected.

On April 6, 2016 the MPD reported back to the Public Safety Committee about the six open meetings that took place. DC Arradondo was complimentary to the work of the PCOC and gave an accurate account of the community sentiment. DC Glampe admitted that the dissatisfaction in the community matched the PCOC recommendations that were left out of the MPD preliminary draft. The Public Safety Committee requested the MPD meet with the PCOC to discuss the policy draft and to report back to that group in two cycles.

****Update Regarding the Civil Rights Commission:***

The MCCR had excellent guest speakers at their last meeting, Judge Lange and the head public defender Mary Moriarty. They spoke about the grand jury process and how Mr Freeman would make the prosecutorial decision about Mr Clark's shooting last November.

I reported to the MCCR about the body camera policy recommendations made by the PCOC and the meetings scheduled by NCR. At least three commissioners attended meetings and spoke up in favor of the PCOC policy and the community input. If the PCOC holds a public meeting on this topic, I propose we include the CRC. I am now a set item on their monthly agenda.

I met with Commissioner Khan-Schwartz to discuss the MN/EDP project and she would like to be involved. I certainly welcome her and know she will be an invaluable addition to the team because of her experience and career as a social worker and psychologist working for Hennepin County. She has written policy and set up programs so can definitely help on that end, too. She has contacts in the MPD, with the County and HCMC who we can also get advice from with on this project.

****Ongoing Outreach Business:***

1. I've had several meetings regarding the MH/EDP project. STAMP MN held a very successful conference call event with the Chief of Police and Director of the Framingham, MA social worker co-responder program. There was a very large attendance including Commissioner Buss, a commissioner from the CRC, a DC from the St Paul PD, the ACLU, two City Council members, DC Rondo, the ACLU and people working with for Hennepin County.
2. The Community Connections event was worthwhile, though not a busy day. The OPCR Intake Investigator, Gabriel Ramirez, and I handed out several of our cards. Lots of people who found our table had also been at the body camera meetings and expressed their support and thanked us for the PCOC's work. I told a few people how to apply to be commissioners in this advocacy. We had the chance to speak directly with CM Gordon to hear his views and answer questions. In addition, I made connections to people in the Civil Rights Department who can be great allies for the PCOC.
3. For the Cinco de Mayo event on May 8, Mothers' Day, Commissioner Cerrillo and I met with Inspector Mike Sullivan of the 3rd Precinct and learned a great deal about the programs that precinct works on. I believe we should invite Inspector Sullivan to give the PCOC a presentation, all the Inspectors, actually. We will meet with the 3rd Precinct again to set up a more interesting event. We personally asked Chief Harteau

to attend and lead the parade. I need Commissioners to attend that event to staff our table. We're near excellent food.

4. We are building a good connection with Commander Troy Schoenberger of the Police Academy. I will be attending CIT Training with officers next week and look forward to it. Commander Schoenberger is travelling to NYC to give a presentation and to attend a seminar specifically on de-escalation and building community trust. He would like to make a presentation to the PCOC about what he learns and what new training he'd like to implement in the Academy and the MPD as a result.

Sincerely,

Laura Westphal

PCOC Outreach Committee Chair